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REMARKS

Clarifying amendments have been made to the specification.

Claims 7, 8, 15, 15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as indefinite. The office action at page 2 states that "[t]he specification as originally filed does not provide support for the alignment guide 162 engaging the bottom surface of the leg, but the bracket 54, as set forth in claims 7, 15, 16 and 17."

Engagement of alignment guide 70 and bottom wall 114 on rear the rear leg is described in the original specification at for example, page 9, lines 12-14. Thus, the recitation in claim 7 of an alignment guide coupled to the front leg for engagement with a bottom surface of the rear leg is supported in the original specification. The additional recitation in claim 15 of an aligner engages a bottom wall of the front leg is supported in the original specification at for example, page 9, lines 8-11. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 7, 8, 15, 15 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph is requested.

Claim 7 has been amended to overcome the 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, rejection. Amended claim 7 changes "bracket" to "guide." The specification at, for example, page 9, lines 1-7 provides basis for engagement of the alignment guide and alignment bracket. At page 9 lines 4-5 it is stated "alignment bracket 54 and pivot support mount 50 are moved into engagement with each other...." Pivot support mount 50 includes the alignment guides 70 and the alignment bracket 54 includes the alignment tab 150 (see for example specification page 8, lines 21-22 and Figs. 6-7). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph is requested.

Claim 6 is rejected as anticipated by Gibson. Gibson '238 does not disclose alignment means as recited in claim 6. The alignment means is for aligning and holding the front leg and rear leg therebetween. Gibson's alignment structure is on one side of the legs and does not hold the legs therebetween. It does not perform the same function, in the same way and have the same result as, and is not equivalent to, applicant's disclosed alignment means. Reconsideration of the rejection of claim 6 and dependent claim 9 is requested.

Claim 13 is rejected as anticipated by Gibson. Claim 13 requires the first and third aligners to engage the rear leg when the frame is in the collapsed position and not to engage the rear leg when the frame is in the opened position. Gibson '238 does not disclose first and third aligners that engage the rear leg when the frame is in the collapsed position as recited in claim 13. Gibson's portions 236 are part of the handle. In Gibson there is no aligner coupled to the

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rear leg and configured to engage the front leg as recited in claims 13 and 17. Reconsideration of the rejection of claim 13 (and dependent claims 11-12, 14 and 18) as well as claim 17 is requested.

Claim 6 is rejected as anticipated by Giezendanner (U.S. Patent No. 4,448,282). Claim 6 requires an alignment means for aligning the front leg and the rear leg and for holding the front leg and rear leg therebetween. The office action does not identify the structure in Giezendanner that performs the aligning and holding. The examiner is requested to identify the structure in Giezendanner that is the basis for rejection of the alignment means for aligning the front leg and the rear leg and for holding the front leg and rear leg therebetween as recited in claim 6. In Giezendanner when the legs are in the collapsed condition they are not held, they are free to move longitudinally as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. Giezendanner does not disclose alignment structure that aligns and holds "therebetween" and it does not perform the same function, in the same way and have the same result as, and is not equivalent to, applicant's disclosed alignment means. Reconsideration of the rejection of claim 6 (and dependent claim 7) is requested.

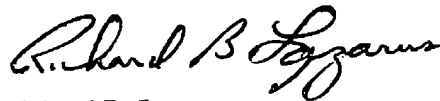
In view of the above, it is submitted that all of the claims (Nos. 1-9 and 11-18) are in condition for allowance and such action is, respectfully, requested.

If there is any issue remaining to be resolved, the examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned so that resolution can be promptly effected.

It is requested that, if necessary to effect a timely response, this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response with the fee for such extensions and shortages in other fees, being charged, or any overpayment in fees being credited, to the Account of Barnes & Thornburg, Deposit Account No. 10-0435 (20341-72213).

Respectfully submitted,

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